

New York, New York

AUG 18 1965

PIERS DUBOIS JACO'S
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FREEDOM OF THE
PRESS

ORGI INTER AMERICAN PRESS
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PRESS ASSOCIATION

ITS 7-03 DOM REP

Pledge of Safety Urged For Newsmen in the DR

Special to The Latin American Times

The Organization of American States ad hoc committee in the Dominican Republic, after receiving a cable from the Inter American Press Association announcing that the rebels had threatened the life of Jules Dubois, Chicago Tribune correspondent and Chairman of the IAPA's Committee on Freedom of the Press, has asked the rebel government to declare that all correspondents will be able to continue performing their duties in the area under its control without threats of any kind.

Mr. Dubois, besides reporting the threat in a cable to the IAPA, said in a story he filed to the Chicago Tribune:

"Jottin Cury (the foreign minister in the rebel government) told me to tell you that they were lined up to kill you," Berrellez (Robert) Berrellez of the Associated Press said. "Cury said he saw them and he told me to tell you that the same rebel who had rushed up to him to try to confirm your identity went back and told him that the only reason they did not kill you was because he (Cury) was there and was standing too close to you."

Contents of the Letter

"Cury had crossed the street to advise me to leave quickly."

Upon receiving Mr. Dubois' report, the chairman of the IAPA's Executive Committee, Robert U. Brown, Editor and

Publisher, New York, sent the following cable to the three members of the OAS' ad hoc committee in the Dominican Republic; Ambassadors Ilmar Penna Marinho of Brazil, Ramon de Clairmont Duenas of El Salvador, and Ellsworth Bunker of the United States: "Jules Dubois, Chicago Tribune correspondent and chairman of our Committee on Freedom of the Press, has informed us that his life was threatened by the rebels in front of their headquarters."

"The Inter American Press Association urges your committee to obtain from the rebel government assurances that the life, freedom, and liberty of this correspondent as well as of all correspondents of the world's free press will be respected and guaranteed."

The ad hoc committee said also that a letter sent to rebel Foreign Minister Cury said:

"This ad hoc committee urges Your Excellency please to contemplate the possibility of declaring that such denunciation is unfounded and that the correspondents will be able to continue performing their duties in the constitutionalist area without threats of any kind."

MORI/CDF